PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6:

C07D 311/30, A61K 31/35

(11) International Publication Number: WO 97/49693

(43) International Publication Date: 31 December 1997 (31.12.97)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/GB97/01727

(22) International Filing Date:

27 June 1997 (27.06.97)

(30) Priority Data:

9613455.6

27 June 1996 (27.06.96)

GB

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE UNIVER-SITY OF BIRMINGHAM [GB/GB]; Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): GOLDING, Bernard, Thomas [GB/GB]; 6 The Copse, Burnopfield, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE16 6HA (GB). GRIFFIN, Roger, John [GB/GB]; 6 Saint Leonards Walk, Lancaster Park, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 3SZ (GB). QUARTERMAN, Charmaine, Paulina [GB/GB]; 56 Hollowfields Close, Southcrest, Redditch, Worcestershire B98 7NR (GB). SLACK, John, Alfred [GB/GB]; Claremont, 29 Saint Bernard's Road, Olton, Solihull, Birmingham B92 7AU (GB). WILLIAMS, Jonathan, Gareth [GB/GB]; 83 Wadebridge Drive, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV11 6SY (GB).

(74) Agent: H.N. & W.S. SKERRETT; Charles House, 148/9 Great Charles Street, Birmingham B3 3HT (GB).

(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: ANALOGUES OR DERIVATIVES OF QUERCETIN (PRODRUGS)

(57) Abstract

Novel carbamate ester analogues or derivatives of Quercetin (prodrugs) are provided which have enhanced aqueous solubility and which are especially suitable for use as biodegradable prodrugs in pharmaceutical compositions formulated for clinical use.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
AM	Armenia	FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania	SK	Slovakia
AT	Austria	FR	Prance	LU	Luxembourg	SN	Senegal
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	LV	Latvia	SZ	Swaziland
٩Z	Azerbaijan	GB	United Kingdom	MC	Monaco	TD	Chad
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GE	Georgia	MD	Republic of Moldova	TG	Togo
BB	Barbados	GH	Ghana	MG	Madagascar	ŢJ	Tajikistan
BE	Belgium	GN	Guinea	MK	The former Yugoslav	TM	Turkmenistan
BF	Burkina Faso	GR	Greece		Republic of Macedonia	TR	Turkey
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary	ML	Mali	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
Ŋ	Benin	18	Ireland	MN	Mongolia	ÜA	Ukraine
3R	Brazil	IL	Israel	MR	Mauritania	UG	Uganda
3Y	Belarus	IS	iceland	MW	Malawi	US	United States of Americ
:A	Canada	ľT	Italy	MX	Mexico	UZ	Uzbekistan
T	Central African Republic	JP	Japan	NE	Niger	VN	Vict Nam
CG	Congo	KE	Kenya	NL	Netherlands	YU	Yugoslavia
H	Switzerland	KG	Kyrgyzstan	NO	Norway	zw	Zimbabwe
ĸ	Côte d'Ivoire	KP	Democratic People's	NZ	New Zealand	2011	Emonow¢.
M	Cameroon		Republic of Korea	PL	Poland		
N.	China	KR	Republic of Korea	PT	Portugal		
CU.	Cuba	KZ	Kazakstan	RO	Romania		
Z	Czech Republic	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
E	Germany	u	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
K	Denmark	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
Œ	Estonia	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		

ANALOGUES OR DERIVATIVES OF QUERCETIN (PRODRUGS)

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to the field of biochemistry and medicine. More particularly it relates to Quercetin analogues or derivatives and preparations thereof. These compounds are potentially useful in tumour chemotherapy, treatment of inflammation and allergy.

Background

5

10

15

The flavonoid Quercetin (3,3',4',5,7-pentahydroxyflavone) has been shown to inhibit the activity of a variety of enzymes including the calcium- and phospholipid dependent protein kinase (protein kinase C) in vivo and in vitro. Furthermore, it synergistically enhances the antiproliferative activity of cis-diaminedichloroplatinum II (cis-DDP) both in vitro and in vivo and therefore is of interest as a promising therapeutic agent for use in the chemotherapy of human tumours. However, Phase I clinical trials have proved problematic owing to the limited solubility of Quercetin in pharmaceutically acceptable solvents, and this characteristic has prevented its further clinical development.

20

25

Summary of the Invention

The present invention has developed from efforts to produce analogues or derivatives of Quercetin having greater aqueous solubility, more suitable for use in pharmaceutical formulations and capable of acting as prodrugs which can be biologically degraded or broken down to release Quercetin within the body after being administered to a patient in need of treatment.

More specifically, from one aspect, the present invention provides compounds of the structural formula I below:

$$R^{1}O$$
 OR^{2}
 OR^{5}
 OR^{4}
 OR^{3}
 OR^{4}

5

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof

wherein

one of R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ is an amino acid carbamate group CONHCH(R⁶)CO₂H and the remainder are each hydrogen,

10 and wherein

R⁶ is hydrogen or C₁₋₄ lower alkyl, e.g. methyl.

Preferred compounds of this invention comprise those compounds wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁵ are each hydrogen and R⁴ is CONHCH₂CO₂H, and those compounds wherein R¹, R², R⁴ and R⁵ are each hydrogen and R³ is CONHCH₂CO₂H. The invention also provides salts of these acid Quercetin analogues. Apart from alkali metal and ammonium salts, amine salts, for example amine salts formed with amino sugars, especially N-alkyl amino sugars such as N-methylglucamine, are of particular interest.

20

15

In general, the compounds of the invention as defined above are novel analogues or derivatives of Quercetin which have enhanced aqueous solubility and which are especially suitable for use as biodegradable prodrugs in pharmaceutical compositions formulated for clinical use.

15

20

25

Thus, the invention also includes pharmaceutical compositions comprising or containing such novel analogues or derivatives providing prodrugs made up or formulated for administration in any suitable manner in the course of medical or veterinary treatment, for example parentally (including intravenously, intramuscularly and subcutaneously) or orally. Such compositions containing or incorporating, conveniently in unit dosage form, therapeutically effective nontoxic amounts of the prodrug compound, or the equivalent of therapeutically effective non-toxic amounts of the active drug compound, together possibly with at least one other ingredient providing a compatible pharmaceutically acceptable additive, carrier, diluent or excipient, may be prepared by any of the methods well known in the art of pharmacy.

The invention also provides new processes for preparing at least some of the compounds referred to above involving in some cases certain novel intermediate compounds.

MORE DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The invention will be further described and exemplified with specific reference to the preparation and properties of Quercetin carbamate ester derivatives or analogues, particularly N-methylglucamine salts, referred to as meglumine salts, of 3'-[(N-carboxymethyl)carbamoyloxy]-3,4',5,7-tetrahydroxy-flavone and the corresponding 4' isomer.

It has been found that these carbamate esters of Quercetin are reasonably stable in aqueous solution but they will degrade to Quercetin under physiological conditions.

First, there is presented below the analytical conditions that were used to

WO 97/49693

4

demonstrate that the meglumine salts of 3' and 4'-[(N-carboxymethyl) carbamoyloxy]-3,4'(3'),5,7-tetrahydroxyflavone have the desired properties for formulation for clinical trial. Then, there are presented details of a process for synthesising these analogues or derivatives of Quercetin.

5

15

20

Analytical Methodology - Non Biological samples

The following conditions were used to analyse the meglumine salts of 3' and 4'-((N-carboxymethyl)carbamoyloxy)-3,4'(3'),5,7- tetrahydroxyflavone.

HPLC

10 Column: Primesphere HC C-18, 5μm, 250 x 3.2mm.

Mobile phase: 45% Methanol in 3mM ammonium acetate pH

3.4

Flow rate: 0.5 ml/min
Temperature: Ambient
Detection: UV at 368nm

Injection volume: 60µl of a 100mg/ml solution in water (6µg of

sample was injected onto the column; 6µg was passed through the detector and using a 1:1 splitter, 3µg was passed, in series, to the mass

PCT/GB97/01727

spectrometer.

Retention times: Component 1 - 15.8 minutes

Component 2 - 16.7 minutes

25 Under the same chromatographic conditions,

Quercetin has a retention time of 22.8 minutes

Mass Spectrometry

30 Cone voltage: 30V

Ionisation mode: Electrospray positive

Flow rate: \(\colon 0.25\text{ml/min}\) (The flow was split 1:1)

Aqueous Solubility

The solubility of the meglumine salts of 3' and 4'-[(N-carboxy-methyl)carbamoyloxy]-3,4'(3'),5,7-tetrahydroxyflavone has been determined by

HPLC and shown to be in excess of 10mg/ml.

Aqueous Stability

3'/4'-((N-Carboxymethyl)carbamoyloxy)-3,4'(3'),5,7-tetrahydroxyflavone shows greater stability at acidic pH than under basic conditions. A 10mg/ml solution in water has a pH of approximately 7 and, whilst stable at -20°C for a period of at least 12 weeks, up to 25% degradation occurs at 4°C over the same period of time. Dilution into dextrose to a final prodrug concentration of 1mg/ml affords a solution with a pH of approximately 6 which undergoes less than 5% degradation over a 4h period at ambient temperature.

10

15

Stability to Human Plasma

The stability of the meglumine salts of 3'/4'-((N-carboxymethyl) carbamoyloxy)-3,4'(3'),5,7-tetrahydroxyflavone has been assessed in human plasma by HPLC. Freshly prepared plasma (2.5 ml) was incubated at 37°C and 0.02ml of a 6.3 mg/ml solution of the prodrug compound in water was added. Aliquots of plasma were taken for HPLC analysis at zero time and at intervals thereafter. Samples were quenched with chilled methanol, the resulting precipitate was centrifuged at 4°C at 800rpm for 5 minutes, and the supernatant was analysed by HPLC.

20

Both isomers, i.e. both the 3' and 4' carbamate esters, were found to be converted into Quercetin. The half life of each isomer in human plasma was approximately 1 hour.

EXAMPLE

Synthesis of 3'/4'-((N-Carboxymethyl)carbamoyloxy)-3,4'(3'),5,7-tetrahydroxy-flavone, N-Methyl-D-glucamine salt

5

10

15

By way of example of the preparation of compounds in accordance with the present invention a process will now be described for the preparation of 3'/4'-[(N-Carboxymethyl)carbamoyloxy]-3,4'(3'),5,7-tetrahydroxyflavone. N-Methyl-D-glucamine salts utilising a 7-step synthesis starting from readily available Quercetin. To achieve a regioselective synthesis the acetylation/benzylation strategy originally reported by Jurd, *J.Am Chem. Soc.*, 80, 5531 (1958), was adapted to allow selective derivatisation of the 3'-position. The different steps or stages in the process are illustrated in the diagram below. Although the primary target product would appear to be the 3' isomer, it was found that after Stage 6 some migration occurs leading to formation also of the 4' isomer so that the final product is a mixture of both 3' and 4' isomers.

$$HO \longleftrightarrow_{OH} OH OH$$

$$AcO \longleftrightarrow_{OAc} OAc$$

$$OAC$$

$$OBD$$

$$OCONHCH_2CO_2E$$

$$AcO \longleftrightarrow_{OAc} OAc$$

$$OAC$$

$$OBD$$

$$OCONHCH_2CO_2E$$

$$AcO \longleftrightarrow_{OAc} OAc$$

$$OCONHCH_2CO_2E$$

$$AcO \longleftrightarrow_{OAc} OAc$$

$$OCONHCH_2CO_2E$$

$$AcO \longleftrightarrow_{OAc} OAc$$

$$OCONHCH_2CO_2E$$

$$AcO \longleftrightarrow_{OAc} OAc$$

$$OCONHCH_2CO_2E$$

$$OH OCONHCH_2CO_2$$

$$OH OCO$$

N-Methyl-D-glucamine salt

15

20

Stage 1 - Preparation of 3,3',4',5,7-Pentaacetoxyflavone

Concentrated sulfuric acid (ca 0.05ml) was added to an ice cold suspension of Quercetin dihydrate (50.02g, 0.15mol) in acetic anhydride (300ml) and an immediate colour change from yellow to orange was observed. The mixture was heated to 90°C for 0.25h, then cooled in an ice bath. A heavy, off-white precipitate formed which was collected by filtration, washed with water and dried *in vacuo* over phosphorus pentoxide at room temperature until no water could be detected by Karl-Fischer titration. Yield 58.1g (0.11mol, 77%).

1H-NMR (d₆-DMSO) δ DMSO = 2.49ppm: 2.32 (15H, s, 5 x CH₃), 7.18 (1H, d,

J= 2.2Hz, Ar-H), 7.53 (1H, d, J= 9.2Hz, 5'-H), 7.65 (1H, d, J= 2.2Hz, Ar-H),
 7.80-7.95 (2H, overlapping multiplets, 2',6'-H)

Stage 2 - Preparation of 3'-Acetoxy-3,4',5,7-tetrabenzyloxyflavone

3,3',4',5,7-Pentaacetoxyflavone (54.1g, 0.11mol), potassium iodide (4.4g, 0.026mol), potassium carbonate (127.5g, 0.92mol) and benzyl chloride (120ml) were heated at reflux in butanone (780ml) which had been dried over boric anhydride. After 48h the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to ambient temperature and filtered. The residue was washed with acetone (3 x 200ml) and the combined washings and filtrate were evaporated *in vacuo*. The evaporation residue was recrystallised twice from ethyl acetate/petrol to furnish the required product as an off white solid (62.8g, 0.089mol, 84%).

1H-NMR (d₆-DMSO) δ DMSO = 2.49ppm: 2.27 (3H, s, CH₃), 5.05 (2H, s, Ar-CH₂), 5.21 (2H, s, Ar-CH₂), 5.24 (4H, s, 2 x Ar-CH₂), 6.69 (1H, d, J= 2.0Hz, Ar-H), 6.97 (1H, d, J= 2.1Hz, Ar-H), 7.30-7.60 (20H, overlapping multiplets, Ar-H), 7.62 (1H, dd, J= 7.1Hz, Ar-H), 7.79 (1H, d, J= 2.2Hz, Ar-H), 7.91 (1H, dd, J= 2.2Hz, 8.8Hz, Ar-H)

Stage 3 - Preparation of 3'-Hydroxy-3,4',5,7-tetrabenzyloxyflavone

Aqueous sodium hydroxide solution (191ml of a 10% w/v solution) was added to a solution of 3'-acetoxy-3,4',5,7-tetrabenzyloxyflavone (61.9g, 0.088mol) at reflux in methanol/acetone (780ml of a 2:5 v/v solution). After 1h the reaction mixture was cooled to ambient temperature, diluted with water (480ml) and acidified to pH 1 with hydrochloric acid (230ml of a 2M solution). A yellow precipitate formed which was isolated by filtration, washed with water (3 x 120ml), dried *in vacuo* and recrystallised from ethyl acetate/petrol. Yield 47.4g (0.072mol, 81%).

10

1H-NMR (d_6 -DMSO) δ DMSO = 2.49ppm: 4.98 (2H, s, Ar-CH₂), 5.21 (2H, s, Ar-CH₂), 5.23 (2H, s, Ar-CH₂), 5.26 (2H, s, Ar-CH₂), 6.70 (1H, d, J= 2.0Hz, Ar-H), 6.89 (1H, d, J= 2.0Hz, Ar-H), 7.28-7.58 (20H, overlapping multiplets, Ar-H), 7.62 (2H, dd, J= 7.1Hz, Ar-H), 9.4 (1H, bs, -OH)

15

20

25

Stage 4 - Preparation of 3'-((N-Ethoxycarbonylmethyl)carbamoyloxy)-3,4',5,7-tetrabenzyloxyflavone

Triethylamine (11ml) and ethyl isocyanatoacetate (11.8ml, 13.6g, 0.11mol) were added to a suspension of 3'-hydroxy-3,4',5,7-tetrabenzyl-oxyflavone (46.7g, 0.071mol) in tetrahydrofuran (425ml) and the mixture was stirred at 50°C. After 0.5h the suspended solids dissolved. After a further 18h a further portion of ethyl isocyanatoacetate (3ml, 3.5g, 0.027mol) was added and stirring continued. After a further 2.5h the reaction mixture was evaporated *in vacuo* and the residue was recrystallised from dichloromethane/petrol to furnish N,N'-di(ethoxycarbonylmethyl)urea. The supernatant liquor was evaporated and the residue was recrystallised from ethyl acetate/petrol to furnish the title compound as a white solid (36.5g, 0.046mol, 65%)

15

1H-NMR (d_6 -DMSO) δ DMSO = 2.49ppm: 1.19 (3H, t, J= 7.1Hz, CH₃), 3.88 (2H, d, J= 6.0Hz, NHC \underline{H}_2), 4.12 (2H, q, J= 7.1Hz, -OCH₂-), 5.03 (2H, s, Ar-CH₂), 5.23 (2H, s, Ar-CH₂), 5.25 (2H, s, Ar-CH₂), 5.26 (2H, s, Ar-CH₂), 6.70 (1H, d, J= 2.0Hz, Ar-H), 7.02 (1H, d, J= 2.0Hz, Ar-H), 7.28-7.58 (19H, overlapping multiplets, Ar-H), 7.63 (2H, d, J= 6.9Hz, Ar-H), 7.81 (1H, d, J= 2.2Hz, Ar-H), 7.90 (1H, dd, J= 2.2Hz, 8.8Hz, Ar-H), 8.29 (1H, t, J= 6.1Hz, -NH-)

Stage 5 - Preparation of 3'-((N-Ethoxycarbonylmethyl)carbamoyloxy)-3,4',5,7-tetrahydroxyflavone

A solution of 3'-((N-ethoxycarbonylmethyl)carbamoyloxy)-3,4',5,7-tetrabenzyloxyflavone (24.6g, 0.031mol) in THF (460ml) was shaken under a hydrogen atmosphere (pH₂ = 110psi) in the presence of palladium on charcoal catalyst (10% w/w Pd, 2.5g). After 20h the reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate evaporated *in vacuo* to furnish the title compound as a yellow solid (14.7g) which was contaminated with toluene and THF as judged by ¹H-NMR but was considered suitable for use without further drying.

1H-NMR (d₆-DMSO) δ DMSO = 2.49ppm: 1.22 (3H, t, J= 7.1Hz, CH₃), 3.85 (2H, d, J= 6.0Hz, NHCH₂), 4.13 (2H, q, J= 7.1Hz, -OCH₂-), 6.20 (1H, d, J= 2.0Hz, Ar-H), 6.46 (1H, d, J= 2.0Hz, Ar-H), 7.06 (1H, d, J= 8.6Hz, 5'-H), 7.86-7.93 (2H, overlapping multiplets, 2',6'-H), 8.12 (1H, t, J= 6.1Hz, -NH-), 9.54 (1H, s, -OH), 10.38 (1H, s, -OH), 10.79 (1H, s, -OH), 12.43 (1H, s, -OH)

Stage 6 - Preparation of 3'-((N-Carboxymethyl)carbamoyloxy)-3,4',5,7-tetrahydroxyflavone

3'-((N-Ethoxycarbonylmethyl)carbamoyloxy)-3,4',5,7-tetrahydroxy-flavone (6.03g, 0.014mol) was dissolved in THF (400ml) and heated to reflux. Sulfuric acid (350ml of a 2M solution) was added and the reaction mixture was heated at 70°C. The progress of the reaction was monitored by HPLC (Primesphere HC C-18, 5mm 250 x 3.2mm; mobile phase: 34% acetonitrile and 0.04% trifluoroacetic acid in water; flow rate: 0.9ml/min; detection:UV at 220nm) at intervals of 0.5h: the starting ester, the required product and Quercetin were all detected in the reaction mixture. After 2h the proportion of the desired product appeared to be at a maximum. The reaction mixture was poured into water (1.5L) and extracted with ethyl acetate (500ml, 3 x 200ml). The ethyl acetate extracts were combined and washed with water (5 x 100ml), dried over magnesium sulfate and evaporated *in vacuo* to furnish the required product as a yellow solid (5.57g) contaminated with 8% w/w Quercetin and 1%w/w 3'-((N-ethoxycarbonylmethyl)carbamoyloxy)-3,4',5,7-tetrahydroxyflavone as judged by HPLC.

1H-NMR (d₆-DMSO) δ DMSO = 2.49ppm: 3.76 (2H, d, J= 6.0Hz, NHCH₂),
20 6.19 (1H, d, J= 1.9Hz, Ar-H), 6.46 (1H, d, J= 1.9Hz, Ar-H), 7.05 (1H, d, J= 8.5Hz, 5'-H), 7.88-7.92 (2H, overlapping multiplets, 2',6'-H), 8.04 (1H, t, J= 6.1Hz, -NH-), 9.58(1H, s, -OH), 10.40 (1H, s, -OH), 10.82 (1H, s, -OH), 12.44 (1H, s, -OH), 12.5 (1H, bs, COOH)

15

Stage 7 - Preparation of 3'-((N-Carboxymethyl)carbamoyloxy)-3,4',5,7-tetrahydroxyflavone, N-Methyl-D-glucamine salt

A solution of N-methyl-D-glucamine (2.76g, 0.014mol) in methanol (200ml) was added to a solution of 3'-((N-carboxymethyl)carbamoyloxy)-3,4',5,7-tetrahydroxyflavone (5.78g, 90% pure, 0.013mol) in methanol (300ml). The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue was dissolved in water (500ml). The solution was adjusted to pH 6.9 with 1M hydrochloric acid, extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 50ml) and freeze dried. The freeze dried solid was redissolved in water (500ml) and filtered successively through $1.2\mu m$, $0.45\mu m$, and $0.2\mu m$ filters and freeze dried once more to furnish the required product as a fine yellow solid (6.12g, 0.01mol, 79%)

1H-NMR (D₂O) δ HOD = 4.8ppm: 2.69 (3H, s, NCH₃), 3.13 (2H, bm, CH₂NHCH₃), 3.5 - 3.8 (7H, overlapping multiplets, CHOH), 4.01 (1H, m, CHOH), 5.80 (2H, bd, Ar-H, both isomers), 6.67 (1H, d, Ar-H, major isomer), 6.90 (1H, d, Ar-H, minor isomer), 7.20 (2H, overlapping multiplets, Ar-II, minor isomer), 7.41 (2H, overlapping multiplets, Ar-H, major isomer).

IR (KBr disc) v = 3360 (OH, NH), 2931, 1715 (C=O), 1655 (C=O), 1598 (C=O),

1561, 1514, 1461, 1424, 1383, 1315, 1248, 1189, 1166, 1087, 1043cm⁻¹

FAB _m/z= 635, 599 ((M+H)⁺), 598 (M⁺), 586, 460, 440, 427, 404, 391, 307, 303, 287, 196 (N-methylglucamine + H)⁺

Although the final product is a mixture of the 3' and 4' isomers, these can be separated if desired, e.g. by HPLC, but since both can act as prodrugs that degrade to Quercetin, separation will generally be unnecessary. The final product may also contain a certain amount of the N-methyl-ID-glucamine, but again this is

10

15

considered unlikely to interfere with the desired Quercetin prodrug characteristics of the product.

N-alkylated carbamates for use in other embodiments where R⁶ is alkyl may be prepared by reaction of phenols with reagents of the type RR'NCOCl which are conveniently prepared *in situ* by reaction of the appropriate amine with phosgene. Alternatively they may be prepared by reaction of amines of the type RR'NH with aryl chloroformates ArOCOCl, which are themselves prepared *in situ* by reaction of phenols with phosgene. Thus ArOC(O)NRCH₂CO₂Et for example may be prepared by reaction of ArOH with RNHCH₂CO₂Et in the presence of phosgene or triphosgene.

In preparing amine salts of Quercetin analogues or derivatives in accordance with the invention using an amino sugar, various amino sugars other than the N-methyl-D-glucamine hereinbefore mentioned may of course be used instead. A non-exhaustive list of amino sugars suitable for forming such salts is given below

- A 1-Amino-1-deoxy-D-sorbitol
- B N-Methyl-D-glucamine (meglumine)
- 20 C 1-Deoxy-1-(methylamino)-D-galactitol
 - D 1-Deoxy-1-(octylamino)-D-glucitol
 - E 1-Deoxy-1-(2-hydroxyethylamino)-D-glucitol
 - F Disorbitylamine
 - G D-Galactosamine
- 25 H D-Glucosamine
 - I D-Mannosamine

The structures of the above compounds A-I are illustrated in the diagrams at the end of the present description which are labelled to correspond.

10

15

20

25

Therapeutic Use

As already indicated, the novel analogues or derivatives of Quercetin provided by the present invention, especially such analogues or derivatives which are biodegradable *in vivo* to Quercetin and which are soluble in water, are particularly useful as prodrugs that may be made up into pharmaceutical formulations for administration in therapeutic treatment, for example therapeutic treatment of mammals suffering from neoplastic diseases or cancer.

In making up such pharmaceutical formulations in the form of sterile liquid preparations for parental use for instance, a predetermined therapeutically effective non-toxic amount of the particular analogue or derivative concerned may be dissolved in phosphate buffered saline and the preparations may be presented in unit dosage form and contained in sealed ampoules ready for use as an intravenous infusion. In general, at least in aqueous solution, concentrations equivalent to those that have been used for Quercetin will be preferred, but the amount and dosage routine required for optimum effectiveness will of course vary and is ultimately at the discretion of the medical or veterinary practitioner treating the mammal in each particular case.

As will be seen, the invention provides a number of different aspects and, in general, it embraces all novel and inventive features and aspects, including novel compounds, herein disclosed either explicitly or implicitly and either singly or in combination with one another. Moreover, the scope of the invention is not to be construed as being limited by the illustrative examples or by the terms and expressions used herein merely in a descriptive or explanatory sense.

CLAIMS

1. A compound having the structural formula I

$$R^{1}O$$
 OR^{2}
 OR^{5}
 OR^{4}
 OR^{5}

5

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

one of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 is an amino acid carbamate group CONHCH(R^6)CO₂H and the remainder are each hydrogen,

10 and wherein

 R^6 is hydrogen or C_{1-4} lower alkyl.

- 2. A compound as claimed in Claim 1 wherein R⁶ is methyl.
- 3. A compound as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁵ are each hydrogen and R⁴ is CONH CH₂ CO₂H.
- 15 4. A compound as claimed in Claim 1 or 2 wherein R¹, R², R⁴ and R⁵ are each hydrogen and R³ is CONH CH₂ CO₂H.
 - 5. A compound as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 4 in the form of an alkali metal salt, an ammonium salt or an amine salt.
- 6. A compound as claimed in Claim 5 which is an amine salt formed with an amino sugar.
 - A compound as claimed in Claim 5 which is an amine salt formed with an N-alkyl amino sugar.

- 8. A compound as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the amino sugar is N-methyl-D-glucamine.
- 9. A compound as claimed in Claim 6 wherein the amino sugar is selected from

5 1-Amino-1-deoxy-D-sorbitol,

N-Methyl-D-glucamine (meglumine),

1-Deoxy-1-(methylamino)-D-galactitol,

1-Deoxy-1-(octylamino)-D-glucitol,

1-Deoxy-1-(2-hydroxyethylamino)-D-glucitol,

10 Disorbitylamine,

20

D-Galactosamine,

D-Glucosamine and

D-Mannosamine.

- 10. A prodrug composition comprising a mixture of a compound as claimed in any of Claims 5 to 9 wherein R⁴ is CONH CH₂ CO₂H and a compound as claimed in any of Claims 5 to 9 where R³ is CONH CH₂ CO₂H.
 - comprising a mixture of 3'-((Ncomposition prodrug 11. carboxymethyl)carbamoyloxy)-3,4',5,7-tetrahydroxyflavone, N-Methyl-3'-((N-carboxymethyl)carbamoyloxy)-3,3',5,7glucamine salt biodegradable N-Methylglucamine salt, tetrahydroxyflavone, Ouercertin.
 - 12. Use of a compound as claimed in any of Claims 1 to 9, or of a composition as claimed in Claim 10 or 11, in therapy for the treatment of mammals suffering from a neoplastic disease or cancer.
- 25 13. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective non-toxic amount of a compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 9, or of a prodrug composition as claimed in Claim 10 or 11, in admixture with a compatible pharmaceutically acceptable additive, carrier, diluent or

excipient.

- 14. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 13 containing a Quercertin carbamate ester that is biodegradable *in vivo* to Quercertin.
- 15. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 13 or 14 in the form of a sterile liquid preparation presented in unit dosage form.
- 16. A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 15 in which said compound or prodrug composition is dissolved in phosphate-buffered saline.
- 17. A method of treating a mammal suffering from a neoplastic disease or cancer comprising administering to said mammal a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in any one of Claims 13 to 16.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Interns. .sal Application No PCT/GB 97/01727

	•
sation and IPC	
ion symbols)	
such documents are included in the fields	searched
ase and, where practical, search terms u	sed)
elevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
	1-16
0 September	1-10
ET ALL 13	1-16
EI ME) 13	
HE) 26	1-16
•	
-/	
•	
Patent family members are t	sted in annex.
"I" leter document published after th	international filing date
or priority date and not in connic cited to understand the principle	
and demonstrated particular relaterance	; the claimed invention
involve an inventive step when t	he dooument is valued and the
cannot be considered to involve	or more other such doon-
ments, such combination being in the art.	obvious to a person skilled
"&" document member of the same p	
03	1, 12, 97
Authorized officer	
,	
Stellmach, J	
	EX Patent family members are involved in the fields devant passages September ET AL) 13 HE) 26 -/ "I' later document published after the or priority date and not in confiderity date and not i

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern...onal Application No
PCT/GB 97/01727

	PCT/GB 97/01727	
	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriats, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	HANSEN, J. ET AL.: "Phenyl carbamates of amino acids as prodrug forms for protecting phenols against first-pass metabolism" INT.J.PHARM., vol. 81, 1992, AMSTERDAM, pages 253-261, XP002044735 see the whole document	1-16
Y	UEDA, I. ET AL.: "Design, Synthesis And Antiinflammatory Activity of a New Indomethacin Ester. 2. 2-[N-[3" CHEM.PHARM.BULL., vol. 39, no. 3, 1991, TOKYO, pages 679-684, XP002044332 see the whole document	1-16
	ANDERSON, W. K. ET AL.: "Synthesis and antineoplastic Activity of Bis[[(alkylamino)carbonyl]oxy]methyl]-Sub stituted 3-Pyrrolines as Prodrugs of Tumor Inhibitory Pyrrole Bis(carbamates) "J.MED.CHEM., vol. 29, no. 11, 1986, WASHINGTON, pages 2241-2249, XP002044333 see the whole document	1-16

1

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet) (July 1992)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Interna. I Application No PCT/GB 97/01727

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0505937 A	30-09-92	IT 1245371 B	20-09-94
US 4202825 A	13-05-80	NONE	
EP 0019081 A	26-11-80	AU 538214 B AU 5715780 A BR 8002191 A CU 35257 A DK 152980 A JP 1018049 B JP 1530699 C JP 55147272 A JP 1117879 A US 4352792 A ZA 8002139 A	02-08-84 16-10-80 25-11-80 28-03-82 15-10-80 03-04-89 15-11-89 17-11-80 10-05-89 05-10-82 29-04-81